

C L A I M S

I Claim:

1 1. A method of locally storing content available from one or more remote source devices
2 within a network of devices comprising:

3 identifying and selecting content from a remote source device;

4 requesting a transfer of the content from the remote source device;

5 storing the content received from the remote source device within a local media cache
6 thereby forming a local content copy;

7 providing the local content copy for playback and transfer to a portable device; and

8 receiving user defined preferences and criteria of content to be selected;

9 wherein identifying and selecting content is performed automatically based on the user-defined
10 preferences and criteria.

1 2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein a user is involved in identifying and selecting
2 content from a remote source device.

1 3. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein identifying and selecting content is performed
2 periodically based on the user defined preferences and criteria.

1 4. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising storing metadata information
2 regarding the content received from the remote source device in a database corresponding to the
3 content.

1 5. The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the metadata information is obtained from the
2 source device of the content.

1 6. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the network of devices includes devices that
2 are UPnP enabled.

1 7. An apparatus to store content available from one or more remote source devices within a
2 network of devices comprising:

3 an interface to the network of devices;

4 a local media cache engine coupled to the interface to request a transfer of identified and
5 selected content from a remote source device; and

6 a local media cache coupled to the local media cache engine to store the identified and
7 selected content received from the remote source device thereby forming a local content copy,
8 wherein the local media cache engine receives user defined preferences and criteria of content to
9 be selected and automatically identifies and selects content based on the user defined preferences
10 and criteria.

1 8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein a user identifies and selects the content from
2 the remote source device.

1 9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein the local media cache engine periodically
2 identifies and selects content based on the user defined preferences and criteria.

1 10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7 further comprising a database for storing metadata
2 information regarding the content received from the remote source device corresponding to the
3 local content copy.

1 11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10 wherein the metadata information is obtained from
2 the source device of the content.

1 12. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein the network of devices includes devices that
2 are UPnP enabled.

1 13. A local device for storing content available from one or more remote source devices
2 within a network of devices comprising:

3 an interface to the network of devices;
4 a local media cache engine coupled to the interface to request a transfer of identified and
5 selected content from a remote source device;
6 a local media cache coupled to the local media cache engine to store the identified and
7 selected content received from the remote source device thereby forming a local content copy,
8 wherein the local media cache engine receives user defined preferences and criteria of content to
9 be selected and automatically identifies and selects content based on the user defined preferences
10 and criteria; and

11 a database coupled to the local media cache engine and the local media cache to store
12 information about the local content copy.

1 14. The local device as claimed in claim 13 wherein a user identifies and selects the content
2 from the remote source device.

1 15. The local device as claimed in claim 13 wherein the local media cache engine
2 periodically identifies and selects content based on the user defined preferences and criteria.

1 16. The local device as claimed in claim 13 wherein the metadata information is obtained
2 from the source device of the content.

1 17. The local device as claimed in claim 13 wherein the network of devices
2 that are UPnP enabled.

1 18. A local media cache engine to store content available from one or more remote source
2 devices within a network of devices comprising:

3 a local media cache to identify and select content received from a remote source
4 device thereby forming a local content copy, wherein the local media cache engine receives user
5 defined preferences and criteria of content to be selected and automatically identifies and selects
6 content based on the user defined preferences and criteria; and

7 a database coupled to the local media cache to store metadata information about the local
8 content copy.

1 19. The local media cache engine as claimed in claim 18 wherein a user identifies and selects
2 the content from the remote source device.

1 20. The local media cache engine as claimed in claim 18 wherein the local media cache
2 engine periodically identifies and selects content based on the user defined preferences and
3 criteria.

1 21. The local media cache engine as claimed in claim 18 wherein the metadata information is
2 obtained from the source device of the content.

1 22. The local media cache engine as claimed in claim 18 wherein the network of devices
2 includes devices that are UPnP enabled.

1 23. A network of devices comprising:
2 one or more remote source devices each having available content; and
3 a local device coupled to the one or more remote source devices to store content available
4 from the one or more remote source devices, the local device including:
5 an interface coupled to the one or more remote source devices;
6 a local media cache engine coupled to the interface to request a transfer of
7 identified and selected content from a remote source device, wherein the local
8 media cache engine receives user defined preferences and criteria of content to be
9 selected and automatically identifies and selects content based on the user defined
10 preferences and criteria; and
11 a local media cache coupled to the local media cache engine to store the identified
12 and selected content received from the remote source device thereby forming a
13 local content copy.

1 24. The network of devices as claimed in claim 23 wherein a user identifies and selects the
2 content from the remote source device.

1 25. The network of devices as claimed in claim 23 wherein the local media cache engine
2 periodically identifies and selects content based on the user defined preferences and criteria.

1 26. The network of devices as claimed in claim 23 wherein the local device further comprises
2 a database for storing metadata information regarding the content received from the remote
3 source device corresponding to the local copy.

1 27. The network of devices as claimed in claim 23 wherein the metadata information is
2 obtained from the source device of the content.

1 28. The network of devices as claimed in claim 23 wherein the network of devices includes
2 devices that are UPnP enabled.